

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Oosterling

Patent No.: 6,860,329

Issued: March 1, 2005

**Serial No.: 10/069,992**

Filed: June 6, 2002

For: APPARATUS FOR AND  
METHOD OF INCLUDING A  
PACKER TO FACILITATE  
ANCHORING A FIRST CONDUIT  
TO A SECOND CONDUIT

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**Group Art Unit: 3672**

**Examiner: Matthew J. Smith**

# Certificate

OCT 13 2006

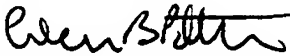
## of Correction

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**Dear Sir:**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**  
**37 CFR 1.8**

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<u>William B. Patterson</u>	<u></u>
Typed Name	Signature
<u>34,102</u>	<u>(713)623-4844</u>
Reg. No. if applicable	Telephone Number

## REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Attached is a Certificate of Correction for correcting several errors in the claims of the printed patent.

The change to Claim 16 was made in the Response to Office Action filed December 12, 2003. The changes to claims 13 and 14 were made in the Response to Office Action filed June 24, 2004 and received by the USPTO on June 28, 2004. Copies of both responses are enclosed.

OCT 16 2006

Applicant submits that these and the other errors mentioned above were not made by the applicant, but were made during the printing of the patent.

Respectfully submitted,



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William B. Patterson  
Registration No. 34,102  
PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.  
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500  
Houston, TX 77056  
Telephone: (713) 623-4844  
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846  
Agent for Applicant(s)

## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO : 6,860,329

Page 1 of 1

APPLICATION NO. : 10/069,992

DATED : Mar. 1, 2005

INVENTOR(S) : Oosterling

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent are hereby corrected as shown below:

In the Claims:

Column 12, Claim 13, Line 2: After "ring", insert --; and an expander device to expand a length of the first conduit--

Column 12, Claim 14, Line 9: After "anchor", insert --; and an expander device to expand a length of the first conduit--

Column 12, Claim 16, Line 18: Delete "the steps of"

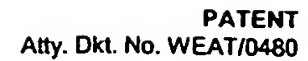
MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER (Please do not use customer number below):

William B. Patterson  
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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OCT 15 2006



~~97AB34~~ Application of:

**Serial No.: 10/069,992**

**Confirmation No.: 5717**

**Filed: June 6, 2000**

**For: APPARATUS FOR AND  
METHOD OF ANCHORING A  
FIRST CONDUIT TO A SECOND  
CONDUIT**

**MAIL STOP Amendment**  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**Dear Sir:**

[illegible]

Group Art Unit: 3672

**Examiner: Matthew J. Smith**

Customer No. 36735

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**  
**37 CFR 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 24 June, 2004.

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**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 30, 2004**

In response to the Office Action dated March 30, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 30, 2004, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicant believes that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0480/WBP, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. **Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) Apparatus for anchoring a first conduit to a second conduit, the apparatus comprising: an inflatable device for engaging with the first conduit, wherein the inflatable device is inflatable to facilitate anchoring of the first conduit to the second conduit; and an expander device to expand a length of the first conduit.
2. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first conduit is an expandable conduit.
3. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first conduit comprises any type of expandable conduit that is capable of sustaining deformation.
4. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first conduit is selected from the group of conduits consisting of expandable liner and expandable casing.
5. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the second conduit is selected from the group of conduits consisting of liner, casing and boreholes.
6. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for anchoring a first conduit to a second conduit, comprising: an inflatable device for engaging with the first conduit, wherein the inflatable device is inflatable to facilitate anchoring of the first conduit to the second conduit, and wherein the inflatable device comprises an inflatable balloon portion coupled to a ring; and an expander device to expand a length of the first conduit.
7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the expander device is telescopically coupled to the inflatable device, so that when the expander device is moved a certain distance, the inflatable device is deflated and subsequently moves with the expander.
9. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the expander device is releasably attached to the inflatable device.
10. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the expander device is releasably attached to the inflatable device using a latch mechanism.
11. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the inflatable device is located within the first conduit.
12. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the inflatable device is coupled near an end of the first conduit.
13. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the inflatable device is inflated to expand the first conduit whereby the first conduit contacts the second conduit, thereby providing an anchor.
14. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first conduit is provided with a slotted portion to facilitate expansion.
15. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for anchoring a first conduit to a second conduit, comprising: an inflatable device for engaging with the first conduit, wherein the inflatable device is inflatable to facilitate anchoring of the first conduit to the second conduit, and wherein, on inflation of the inflatable device, a portion thereof directly contacts the second conduit to provide an anchor; and an expander device to expand a length of the first conduit.

16. (Previously Presented) A method of anchoring a first conduit to a second conduit, comprising: providing the first conduit, an expander device, and an inflatable device in contact with the first conduit, running the first conduit and inflatable device into the second conduit, inflating the inflatable device to facilitate anchoring of the first conduit to the second conduit, and expanding a length of the first conduit with the expander device.

17. (Previously Presented) A method of anchoring an expandable conduit to a second conduit, comprising: providing the expandable conduit, running the expandable conduit into the second conduit, passing an assembly comprising an inflatable device and an expander into the expandable conduit, inflating the inflatable device to facilitate anchoring of the expandable conduit to the second conduit, and expanding a length of the expandable conduit with the expander device.

18. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 17, wherein the method further includes deflating the inflatable device, removing the expander device from the expandable conduit and removing the inflatable device from the expandable conduit.

19. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 17, wherein the method further includes attaching the expander device to the inflatable device, deflating the inflatable device, removing the expander device from the expandable conduit and removing the inflatable device from the expandable conduit.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the assembly is disposed within the expandable conduit during the running.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the expander device of the assembly is disposed within the expandable conduit and the inflatable device is disposed outside the expandable conduit during the running.

22. (Previously Presented) A method of anchoring an expandable conduit within a wellbore, comprising:

running the expandable conduit into the wellbore;

passing an assembly comprising a pressure actuated radially expandable device and an expander into the expandable conduit;

actuating the expandable device to facilitate anchoring of the expandable conduit in the wellbore, and

expanding a length of the expandable conduit with the expander device.



## REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated March 30, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 30, 2004. Claims 1-6 and 8-22 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 6 and 15 stand rejected, and claims 1-5, 8-14 and 16-22 are indicated to be allowable by the Examiner. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

Claims 6 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Vance, Sr.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,220,959).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. *Vance, Sr.* discloses an inflatable packer supported on a mandrel for gripping the inside of the casing. However, *Vance, Sr.* does not teach an expander device to expand a length of the mandrel. Therefore, *Vance, Sr.* does not teach, show, or suggest an apparatus for anchoring a first conduit to a second conduit that includes an inflatable device for engaging with the first conduit, wherein the inflatable device is inflatable to facilitate anchoring of the first conduit to the second conduit, and wherein the inflatable device comprises an inflatable balloon portion coupled to a ring, and an expander device to expand a length of the first conduit, as recited in claim 6. Further, *Vance, Sr.* does not teach, show, or suggest an apparatus for anchoring a first conduit to a second conduit that includes an inflatable device for engaging with the first conduit, wherein the inflatable device is inflatable to facilitate anchoring of the first conduit to the second conduit, and wherein, on inflation of the inflatable device, a portion thereof directly contacts the second conduit to provide an anchor, and an expander device to expand a length of the first conduit, as recited in claim 15. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6 and 15 and allowance of these claims.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1-5, 8-14, and 16-22 are allowed.

Applicant appreciates allowance of these claims.

**Conclusion**

The secondary references made of record are noted. However, it is believed that the secondary references are no more pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure than the primary references cited in the office action. Therefore, Applicant believes that a detailed discussion of the secondary references is not necessary for a full and complete response to this office action.

The references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed. Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



---

William B. Patterson

Registration No. 34,102

MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.

3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500

Houston, TX 77056

Telephone: (713) 623-4844

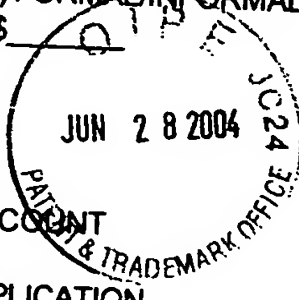
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Attorney for Applicant

DOCKET No.: WEAT 10480 MURG 10  
SERIAL No.: 10/069,992  
FILED: 6/6/2000  
APPLICANT: e2-Jean  
INVENTOR: scoteling

The Patent & Trademark Office acknowledges and has stamped  
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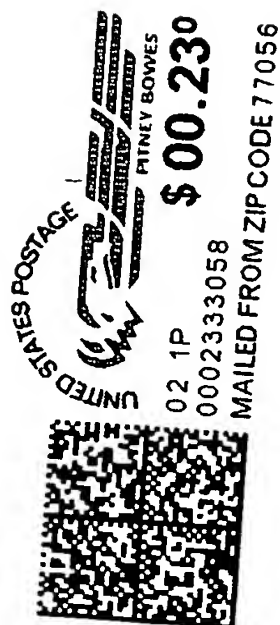


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**Moser, Patterson & Sheridan LLP**  
3040 Post Oak Boulevard, #1500  
Houston, Texas 77056-6582



Application of:  
Peter Oosterling

**For: APPARATUS FOR AND  
METHOD OF ANCHORING A  
FIRST CONDUIT TO A  
SECOND CONDUIT**

**Dear Sir:**

Customer No. 36735

Walter B. Pitts  
Signature

## Page 1

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13 line 29 with the following amended paragraph:

As shown in Figure 5, the expandable conduit ~~400~~120 is provided with the friction and/or sealing material 122 at at least one location. The friction and/or sealing material 122 is applied to the outer surface 120s of the conduit 120 at axially spaced apart locations, typically spaced from one another by around 12 inches (approximately 305mm).

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for anchoring a first conduit to a second conduit, the apparatus comprising: an inflatable device for engaging with the first conduit, wherein the inflatable device is inflatable to facilitate anchoring of the first conduit to the second conduit; and an expander device to expand a length of the first conduit.
2. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first conduit is an expandable conduit.
3. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first conduit comprises any type of expandable conduit that is capable of sustaining deformation.
4. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first conduit is selected from the group of conduits consisting of expandable liner and expandable casing.
5. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the second conduit is selected from the group of conduits consisting of liner, casing and boreholes.
6. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for anchoring a first conduit to a second conduit, comprising: an inflatable device for engaging with the first conduit, wherein the inflatable device is inflatable to facilitate anchoring of the first conduit to the second conduit according to claim 1, and wherein the inflatable device comprises an inflatable balloon portion coupled to a ring.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim ~~[[7]]~~1, wherein the expander device is telescopically coupled to the inflatable device, so that when the

expander device is moved a certain distance, the inflatable device is deflated and subsequently moves with the expander.

9. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim ~~[[7]]~~1, wherein the expander device is releasably attached to the inflatable device.

10. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the expander device is releasably attached to the inflatable device using a latch mechanism.

11. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the inflatable device is located within the first conduit.

12. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the inflatable device is coupled near an end of the first conduit.

13. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the inflatable device is inflated to expand the first conduit whereby the first conduit contacts the second conduit, thereby providing an anchor.

14. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first conduit is provided with a slotted portion to facilitate expansion.

15. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for anchoring a first conduit to a second conduit, comprising: an inflatable device for engaging with the first conduit, wherein the inflatable device is inflatable to facilitate anchoring of the first conduit to the second conduit according to claim 1, and wherein, on inflation of the inflatable device, a portion thereof directly contacts the second conduit to provide an anchor.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of anchoring a first conduit to a second conduit, the method comprising: the steps of providing ~~[[a]]~~ the first conduit, providing an expander device, and an inflatable device in contact with the first conduit, running the first conduit and inflatable device into the second conduit, and subsequently inflating the inflatable device to facilitate anchoring of the first conduit to the second conduit, and expanding a length of the first conduit with the expander device.



17. (Currently Amended) A method of anchoring an expandable conduit to a second conduit, ~~the method comprising: the steps of~~ providing an the expandable conduit, running the ~~first~~ expandable conduit into the second conduit, passing an assembly comprising an inflatable device and an expander into the expandable conduit, ~~and subsequently~~ inflating the inflatable device to facilitate anchoring of the expandable conduit to the second conduit, and expanding a length of the expandable conduit with the expander device.

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~[[or]]~~ claim 17, wherein the method further ~~includes at least one of the additional steps selected from the group consisting of inserting an expander device into the expandable conduit, operating the expander device to expand the expandable conduit, deflating the inflatable device, removing the expander device from the expandable conduit and removing the inflatable device from the expandable conduit.~~

19. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 17, wherein the method further ~~includes at least one of the additional steps selected from the group consisting of attaching an expander device to the inflatable device, operating the expander device to expand the expandable conduit, re-attaching the expander device to the inflatable device, deflating the inflatable device, removing the expander device from the expandable conduit and removing the inflatable device from the expandable conduit.~~

20. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the assembly is disposed within the expandable conduit during the running.

21. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the expander device of the assembly is disposed within the expandable conduit and the inflatable device is disposed outside the expandable conduit during the running.

22. (New) A method of anchoring an expandable conduit within a wellbore, comprising:  
running the expandable conduit into the wellbore;

passing an assembly comprising a pressure actuated radially expandable device and an expander into the expandable conduit;

actuating the expandable device to facilitate anchoring of the expandable conduit in the wellbore, and

expanding a length of the expandable conduit with the expander device.

**IN THE DRAWINGS:**

The attached "Annotated Sheet Showing Changes" includes changes to Figs. 2a-2d. The attached "Replacement Sheet" incorporates these changes and replaces the original sheet 2/6. In Figures 2a-2d, one of the two reference characters 48 that previously designated different parts has been replaced with previously omitted reference character 38. Thus, Applicant submits that no new matter has been added to the drawings and respectfully requests acceptance of the drawings.

## REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated September 9, 2003, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on December 9, 2003. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

In the specification, the paragraph beginning on page 13 line 29 has been amended to correct minor editorial problems.

Claims 1-19 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 1-5, 7, 12-14 and 16-19 stand rejected and claims 6, 8-11 and 15 stand objected to by the Examiner. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is requested for reasons presented below.

### *Drawings*

The drawings stand objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign mentioned in the description: "38", friction and/or sealing material. The drawings stand objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "48", figures 2a-2d has been used to designate both slots (specification page 18) and a collar (not described in the specification).

In Figures 2a-2d, one of the two reference characters 48 that previously designated different parts has been replaced with previously omitted reference character 38. Applicant submits that these amendments obviate the objection and add no new matter to the drawings. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests acceptance of the drawings.

### *Claims Objections*

Claim 17 stands objected to because the following informality: "first" (line 3) lacks proper antecedent basis ("expandable" is written in line 1).

Claim 17 has been amended to correct the informality as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to claim 17.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

Claims 1-5, 7, 13, 14, and 16-19 stand rejected under 37 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nazzai et al. "Nazzai" (U.S. Patent No. 6,253,850).

The Examiner states that Nazzai discloses an apparatus for anchoring a first expandable, slotted (fig. 1) conduit or liner 14 capable of sustaining deformation to a second conduit or liner 12 using an inflatable device including an expander (co. 3, line 19-23). The reference also discloses a method of inflating a device to anchor concentric pipes, deflating (inherent), and removing (also inherent).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection as applied to amended independent claims 1, 16 and 17. Nazzai discloses an inflatable member used as an expander itself that expands or reforms a tubular liner. There is no indication that the inflatable member can be used as an anchor for the tubular liner that is to be expanded by a separate expander. Therefore, Nazzai does not teach, show, or suggest an apparatus for anchoring a first conduit to a second conduit that includes an inflatable device for engaging with the first conduit, wherein the inflatable device is inflatable to facilitate anchoring of the first conduit to the second conduit and an expander device to expand a length of the first conduit, as recited in claim 1, and claims 2-5 and 8-14 dependent thereon. Further, Nazzai does not teach, show, or suggest a method of anchoring a first conduit to a second conduit that includes providing the first conduit, an expander device, and an inflatable device in contact with the first conduit, running the first conduit and inflatable device into the second conduit, inflating the inflatable device to facilitate anchoring of the first conduit to the second conduit, and expanding a length of the first conduit with the expander device, as recited in claim 16. Additionally, Nazzai does not teach, show, or suggest a method of anchoring an expandable conduit to a second conduit that includes providing the expandable conduit, running the expandable conduit into the second conduit, passing an assembly comprising an inflatable device and an expander into the expandable conduit, inflating the inflatable device to facilitate anchoring of the expandable conduit to the second conduit, and expanding a length of the expandable conduit with the expander device, as recited in claim 17 and claims 18-21 dependent thereon. Applicants have canceled claim 7 without prejudice. Withdrawal of the rejection of

claims 1-5, 7, 13-14 and 16-19 and allowance of claims 1-5, 8-14, and 16-19 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Saltel (WO9706346).

The Examiner states that Saltel discloses an inflatable apparatus 1A for anchoring a first expandable conduit 1 to a second conduit or borehole (as defined by applicant in claim 5), and the apparatus near an end of the first conduit.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection as applied to amended independent claim 1. Saltel discloses an inflatable member used as an expander itself that expands a hardenable preform. There is no indication that the inflatable member can be used as an anchor for a tubular liner that is to be expanded by a separate expander. Therefore, Saltel does not teach, show, or suggest an apparatus for anchoring a first conduit to a second conduit that includes an inflatable device for engaging with the first conduit, wherein the inflatable device is inflatable to facilitate anchoring of the first conduit to the second conduit and an expander device to expand a length of the first conduit, as recited in claim 1, and claims 5 and 12 dependent thereon. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 6, 8-11, 13, 15 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has rewritten claims 6 and 15 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Thus, Applicant requests withdrawal of the objection and allowance of claims 6 and 15. Applicant submits that dependent claims 8-11, 13 and 19 are in condition for allowance based at least on their dependency to the independent claims as amended and traversed herein.

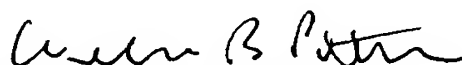
### ***Conclusion***

The references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed.

The secondary references made of record are noted. However, it is believed that the secondary references are no more pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure than the primary references cited in the office action. Therefore, Applicant believes that a detailed discussion of the secondary references is not necessary for a full and complete response to this office action.

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



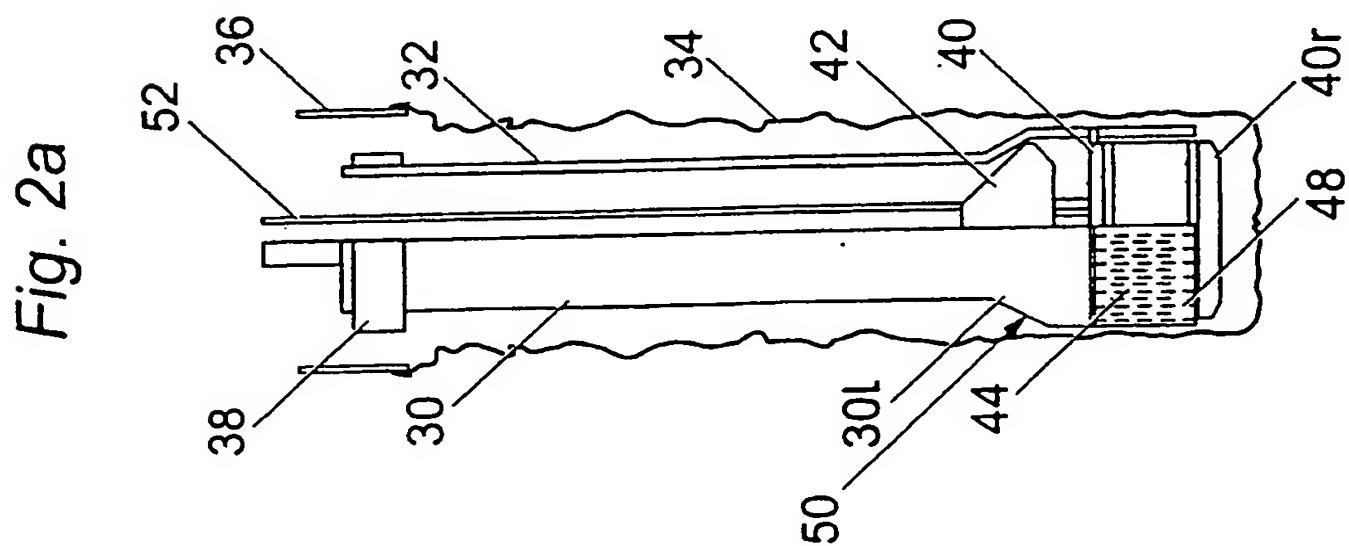
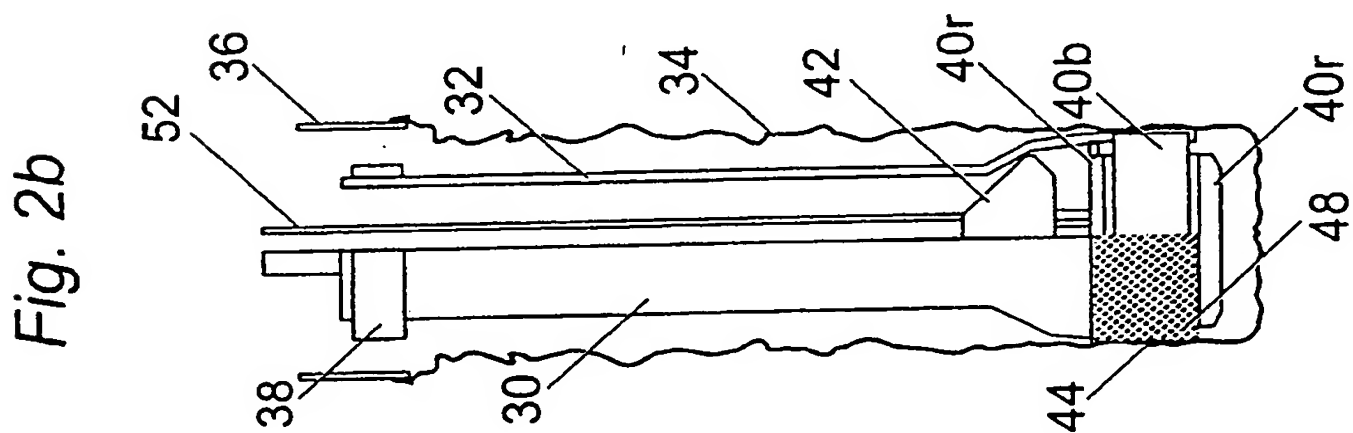
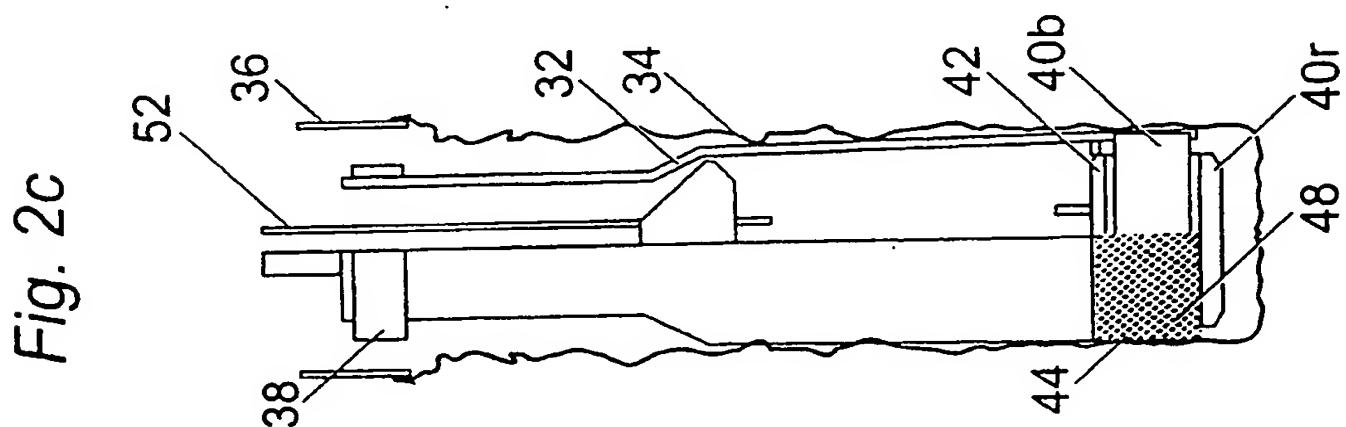
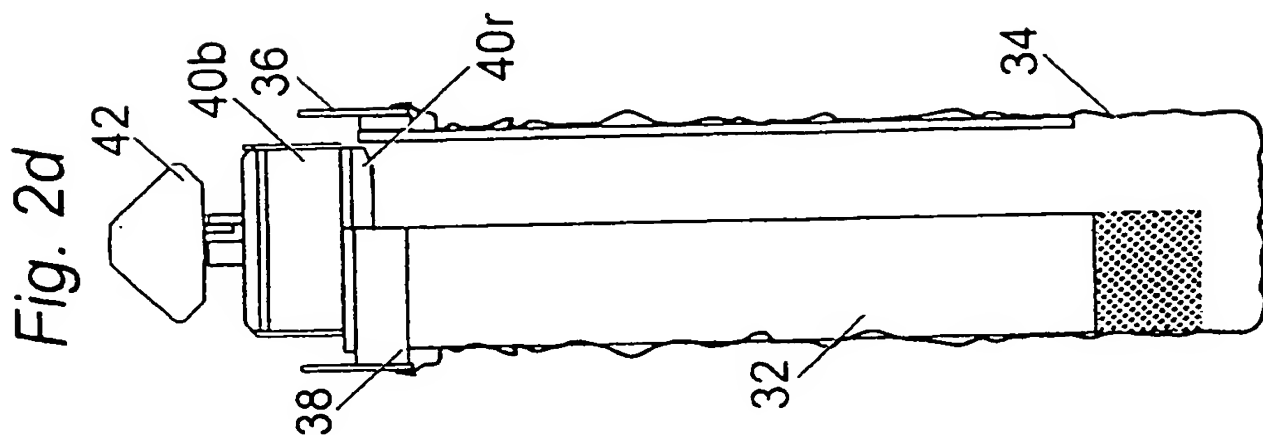
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William B. Patterson  
Registration No. 34,102  
MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.  
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500  
Houston, TX 77056  
Telephone: (713) 623-4844  
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846  
Attorney for Applicant



# REPLACEMENT SHEET

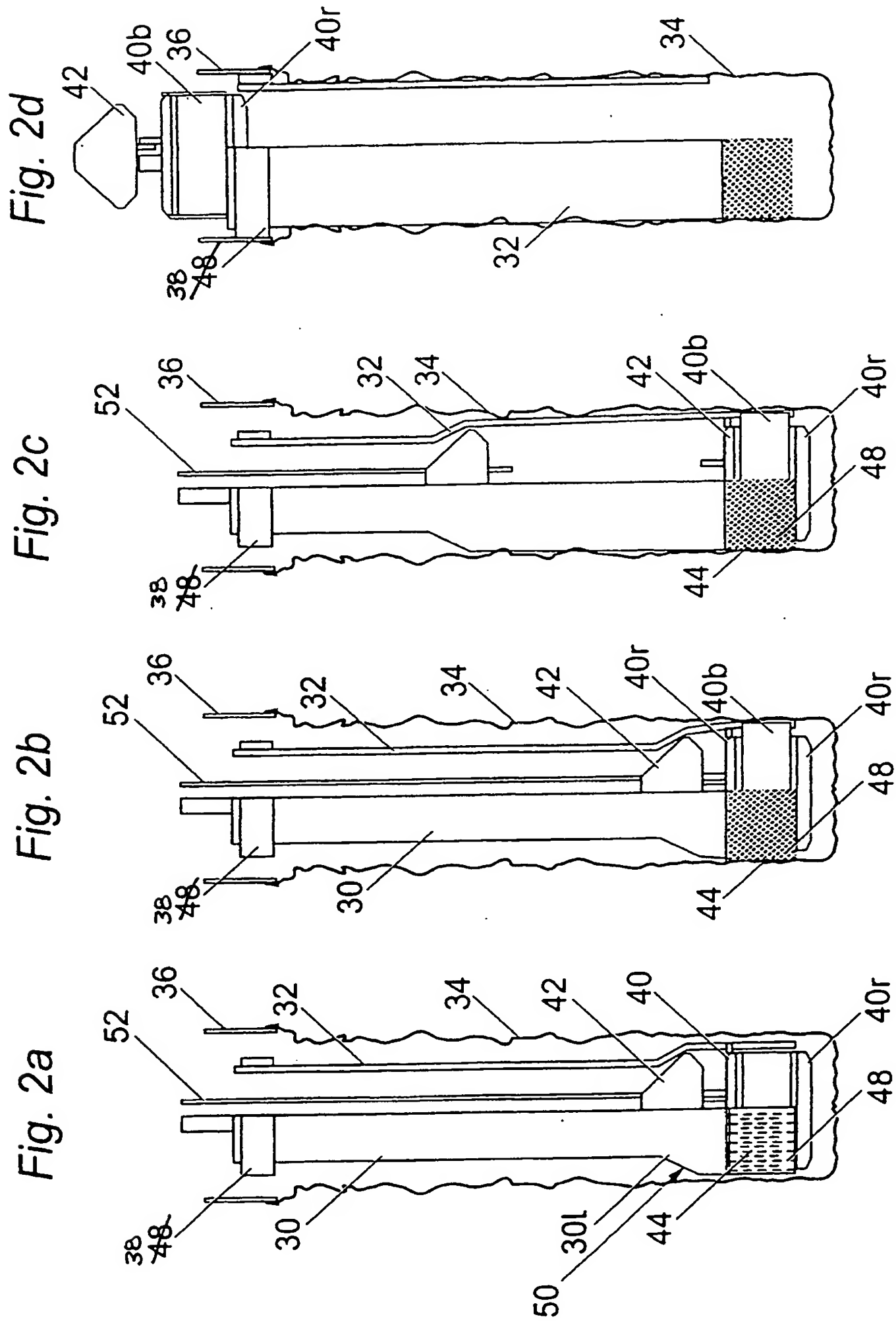
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# ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES

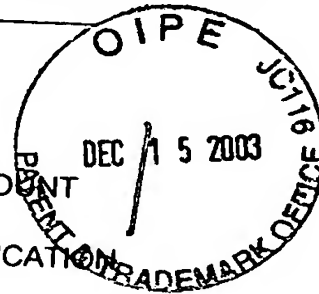
2 / 6



DOCKET No.: WEAT 70480  
SERIAL No.: 10/069 992  
FILED: 6/16/2002  
APPLICANT: E2-TECH  
INVENTOR: OOSTERLING

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